

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Takashi HAYASHIHARA et al.

Serial No. 09/977,248

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Confirmation No. 2244

Filed: October 16, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

FRONT AND REAR ADJUSTABLE PEDALING DEVICE ALSO USABLE TO
AUTOMOBILE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please DELETE the Abstract in its entirety and substitute a new Abstract as follows:

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A vehicle pedal device including: a depressable portion which is to be operationally depressed by a driver of the vehicle; an output member which is pivotably supported by a supporting shaft provided in a bracket that is fixed to a body of the vehicle, such that the output member is pivoted about the supporting shaft when the depressable portion is operationally depressed, for thereby applying to a motive-power transmitting member an output corresponding to a depression force which is applied to the depressable portion; a longitudinal adjustment device which moves the depressable portion in a longitudinal direction of the body of the vehicle when the depressable portion is not being operationally depressed; and a pedal-ratio varying mechanism which is disposed between the output member and the motive-power transmitting member, and which is capable of adjusting a pedal ratio of the pedal device.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE paragraph [0028] with the following new paragraph: